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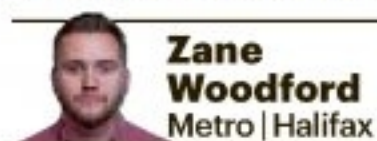
Your essential daily news | MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017

High -12°C/Low -16°C Partly cloudy

Controversial proposal coming to city council

DEVELOPMENT

If project goes ahead, 3 buildings will be torn down



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

Halifax regional council will vote this week on whether to allow a controversial development at the corner of Oxford and North streets.

The proposal from Mythos Development Ltd. is for a seven-storey, 81-unit residential building on the site. Three buildings would be torn down to make way for the development: the former St. Theresa Convent building, which is now a 44-unit apartment building known as Ardmore Hall; a three-unit home; and a single-unit home.

Planning staff recommended to the Halifax and West Community Council last fall that bylaw amendments be approved to allow the development, but only if it was taken down to six storeys. The community council rejected that recommenda-

tion, and recommended that regional council refuse the bylaw amendments and not allow the development.

"I talked to residents and residents are still not in full agreement of the development," Coun. Lindell Smith said in an interview. "I'm more willing to hear reasons of why it can work because it's down to six."

Smith said there was no presentation from municipal planning staff at that meeting, where he voted against the proposal, so he's looking forward to hearing one on Tuesday during the first council session of 2017.

"I'm still not sure if six is where we should be at, but if our planners are saying that, I want to know how they came to that conclusion," he said.

Smith said the community council voted against the development in part because "the neighbourhood was rallying against it."

Staff originally recommended against the development altogether in 2014, but the previous regional council voted against their recommendation, allowing the planning process to go forward.

At a public meeting held about

a year ago, more than two dozen nearby residents, including Smith, spoke out against a larger version of the development.

Coun. Shawn Cleary's district starts across the street from the site, and he said he's heard "lot and lots" of feedback from constituents during his short time in office.

"The vast majority of them think it's too massive, too tall for the neighbourhood, but they also have issues with the process," he said in an interview.



A rendering of the proposal at the corner of Oxford and North streets. HANDOUT

Co-founder Shawn Greene gives a demonstration of the technology.
JEFF HARPER/METRO



'COOL' BIZ

Virtual reality winning over fans in Halifax **metroNEWS**

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HELLCAT'S

\$11,000
OFF ALL
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CHEROKEE'S

ZERO
DOWN
DRIVE AWAY
PAYMENTS
OAC

UP TO
\$7,623 OFF
JEEP
WRANGLER'S

2016 GRAND CARAVANS - SAVE \$10,000

STOCK#	LOCATION	TRIM	WAS	SALE	DRIVE AWAY PMT
S77641	BEDFORD HWY	CVP	\$32,590	\$22,590*	\$149 B/W**
S68573	BEDFORD HWY	SE PLUS	\$34,710	\$24,710*	\$163 B/W**
S68571	BEDFORD HWY	SE PLUS	\$34,485	\$24,485*	\$161 B/W**
H77635	BAYER'S LAKE	SE PLUS	\$34,680	\$24,680*	\$162 B/W**
H14944	BAYER'S LAKE	SE PLUS	\$34,485	\$24,485*	\$161 B/W**

2016 FIAT 500'S - SAVE \$4,978 - \$6,650

STOCK#	LOCATION	TRIM	WAS	SALE	DRIVE AWAY PMT
S74318	BEDFORD HWY	500X POP FWD	\$24,890	\$19,912*	\$132 B/W**
S96696	BEDFORD HWY	500X TREKKING FWD	\$33,250	\$26,600*	\$175 B/W**

2016 DODGE JOURNEY - SAVE \$6,600 - \$7,597

STOCK#	LOCATION	TRIM	WAS	SALE	DRIVE AWAY PMT
S18242	BEDFORD HWY	SXT/LIMITED FWD	\$34,060	\$27,248*	\$179 B/W**
S58118	BEDFORD HWY	CROSSROAD FWD	\$37,985	\$30,388*	\$199 B/W**
H18235	BAYER'S LAKE	SXT	\$33,460	\$26,768*	\$176 B/W**
H36619	BAYER'S LAKE	BLACKTOP	\$33,290	\$26,632*	\$175 B/W**
H33970	BAYER'S LAKE	BLACKTOP	\$32,990	\$26,392*	\$173 B/W**

2016 DODGE CHALLENGER - SAVE \$6,083 - \$12,279

STOCK#	LOCATION	TRIM	WAS	SALE	DRIVE AWAY PMT
H75209	BAYER'S LAKE	SXT BLACKTOP	\$40,555	\$34,472*	\$225 B/W**
H53029	BAYER'S LAKE	CHALLENGER HELLCAT - 6.2L SUPERCHARGED HELLCAT	\$81,860	\$69,581*	\$448 B/W**
S58712	BEDFORD HWY	CHALLENGER HELLCAT - 6.2L SUPERCHARGED HELLCAT	\$80,860	\$68,731*	\$442 B/W**

2016 DODGE CHARGER - SAVE \$12,720

STOCK#	LOCATION	TRIM	WAS	SALE	DRIVE AWAY PMT
H39823	BAYER'S LAKE	CHARGER SRT - 6.2L SUPERCHARGED HELLCAT	\$84,800	\$72,080*	\$464 B/W**

2016 RAM 1500 & 2500 - SAVE \$14,325 - \$21,387

STOCK#	LOCATION	TRIM	WAS	SALE	DRIVE AWAY PMT
S78248	BEDFORD HWY	SPORT QUAD 5.7L	\$57,300	\$42,975*	\$279 B/W**
S14550	BEDFORD HWY	SLT CREW PLUS DECORE ECODIESEL	\$60,375	\$45,282*	\$293 B/W**
H20050	BAYER'S LAKE	LARAMIE QUAD ECODIESEL	\$68,330	\$51,248*	\$332 B/W**
H37016	BAYER'S LAKE	2500 CREW LARAMIE 6.7L DIESEL	\$85,545	\$64,159*	\$414 B/W**

2016 JEEP WRANGLER - SAVE \$6,470 - \$7,623

STOCK#	LOCATION	TRIM	WAS	SALE	DRIVE AWAY PMT
H44202	BAYER'S LAKE	RUBICON 2DR	\$47,205	\$40,124*	\$259 B/W**
H80681	BAYER'S LAKE	RUBICON 2DR	\$50,820	\$43,197*	\$279 B/W**
H80680	BAYER'S LAKE	RUBICON 2DR	\$50,820	\$43,197*	\$279 B/W**
S57008	BEDFORD HWY	SAHARA 2DR	\$43,135	\$36,665*	\$239 B/W**
S66288	BEDFORD HWY	RUBICON 2DR	\$49,350	\$41,948*	\$272 B/W**
S66287	BEDFORD HWY	RUBICON 2DR	\$49,350	\$41,948*	\$272 B/W**

2016 JEEP CHEROKEE - SAVE \$6,000 - \$8,000

STOCK#	LOCATION	TRIM	WAS	SALE	DRIVE AWAY PMT
H57730	BAYER'S LAKE	SPORT	\$28,535	\$22,828*	\$151 B/W**
H57729	BAYER'S LAKE	SPORT	\$28,535	\$22,828*	\$151 B/W**
H28197	BAYER'S LAKE	SPORT	\$28,565	\$22,858*	\$151 B/W**
H90998	BAYER'S LAKE	SPORT	\$29,015	\$23,212*	\$150 B/W**
H50273	BAYER'S LAKE	SPORT ALTITUDE	\$31,105	\$24,884*	\$164 B/W**
H50222	BAYER'S LAKE	SPORT ALTITUDE	\$31,300	\$25,040*	\$165 B/W**
H28199	BAYER'S LAKE	SPORT	\$29,935	\$23,948*	\$158 B/W**
H28182	BAYER'S LAKE	SPORT	\$29,685	\$23,748*	\$157 B/W**
S28201	BEDFORD HWY	SPORT	\$30,160	\$24,128*	\$157 B/W**
S28202	BEDFORD HWY	SPORT	\$29,935	\$23,948*	\$158 B/W**
S114575	BEDFORD HWY	SPORT	\$29,935	\$23,948*	\$158 B/W**
S50272	BEDFORD HWY	SPORT	\$31,105	\$24,884*	\$164 B/W**
S50253	BEDFORD HWY	SPORT	\$31,300	\$25,040*	\$165 B/W**
S73877	BEDFORD HWY	SPORT ALTITUDE	\$34,175	\$27,340*	\$179 B/W**
S68438	BEDFORD HWY	NORTH	\$39,100	\$31,280*	\$205 B/W**
S14572	BEDFORD HWY	LIMITED	\$35,840	\$28,672*	\$188 B/W**
H14573	BAYER'S LAKE	LIMITED	\$35,965	\$28,772*	\$188 B/W**

2016 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE - SAVE \$11,000

STOCK#	LOCATION	TRIM	WAS	SALE	DRIVE AWAY PMT
H91826	BAYER'S LAKE	OVERLAND 3.0 ECODIESEL	\$73,720	\$62,720*	\$404 B/W**
S35056	BEDFORD HWY	SUMMIT 3.0 ECODIESEL	\$75,730	\$64,730*	\$417 B/W**
S65622	BEDFORD HWY	OVERLAND 3.0 ECODIESEL	\$72,455	\$61,455*	\$396 B/W**

2016 JEEP RENEGADE - SAVE \$3,500 - \$5,500

STOCK#	LOCATION	TRIM	WAS	SALE	DRIVE AWAY PMT
S70897	BEDFORD HWY	SPORT	\$23,390	\$19,882*	\$132 B/W**
S89722	BEDFORD HWY	NORTH	\$33,580	\$28,543*	\$187 B/W**
S86799	BEDFORD HWY	NORTH	\$36,705	\$31,199*	\$204 B/W**
HE24834	BAYER'S LAKE	SPORT	\$32,505	\$27,630*	\$181 B/W**
H24869	BAYER'S LAKE	SPORT	\$32,505	\$27,630*	\$181 B/W**
H24848	BAYER'S LAKE	NORTH	\$33,630	\$28,586*	\$187 B/W**
H24461	BAYER'S LAKE	NORTH	\$33,630	\$28,586*	\$187 B/W**

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Residents blown away by support after snow storm

WEATHER

Neighbours and city crews dig in after heavy fall causes chaos



Alex Quon
For Metro | Halifax

Neighbours helping neighbours is a continuing tradition this winter as Halifax cleans up from a major winter storm over the weekend.

Albert Kopf, who was clearing his neighbour's sidewalk with a snowblower, said that he's trying to help his friends out as much as possible.

He was up at 10 a.m. Sunday in order to start clearing the pile up of snow around his neighbourhood.

"This isn't that bad of a storm but this thing sure made it easier to clear the snow," he said.

City crews were working throughout the night as well as Sunday morning to clear major roadways but many streets were still covered in snow by noon. In order to help clear the remaining streets the municipality was to continue enforcing its overnight winter parking ban from 1-6 a.m. on Monday.

Many early morning flights were cancelled or delayed at the Halifax Stanfield International Airport, with Environment



Joey d'Entremont gets to work with his snowblower in the north end of Halifax to clear away an overnight snow dump. BOTH IMAGES
JEFF HARPER/METRO

Canada reporting the airport officially received 33 centimetres during the storm that began Saturday evening and stopped early Sunday morning.

While Environment Canada wasn't able to provide official totals for other areas, it was able to provide unofficial totals from volunteer reporters. Dartmouth received 24 centimetres of snow, Hammond Plains re-

42
The amount of snow in centimetres part of Kings West received. The largest reported fall in Halifax.

ceived 22 centimetres and Bedford 26 centimetres.



A plow touches up an already clear Almon Street in Halifax on Sunday.

The largest reported number comes out of Kings West where they received 42 centimetres of snow, as reported by the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal's official Twitter account.

Many businesses delayed opening or remained closed on Sunday due to the storm.

Laura Draeger, who owns

Dilly Dally Café, decided to not open her store until noon on Sunday. She said it was to allow customers to dig themselves out and her employees to clear the snow around the store.

"But that didn't work out, we had people coming in at 11:15," she said. "I guess we'll be powering them through this storm."

COMMERCE

Hard year for small Nova Scotia businesses

Last year didn't end on a high note for Nova Scotia businesses as they experienced a five-point dip in business confidence — a stark contrast to when the province led the country at the beginning of the year.

The data comes from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) index, which measures CFIB members' expectations of how their businesses will perform on a scale from zero to 100.

An index above 50 means owners who expect their business performance to be stronger in the coming year outnumber those who expect a weaker performance. An index between 65 and 70 means the economy is growing at its potential.

While Nova Scotia began 2016 with an index level of 69, a tough first six months saw that drop off dramatically. While confidence grew throughout the final half of the year the province ended the year with an index level of 64.9.

Jordi Morgan, CFIB's Atlantic vice-president, said in a release issued Sunday that the business market's volatility is to blame for the province's business owners shrinking confidence.

"That would indicate many small firms in Nova Scotia will probably be happy to put 2016 in the rear-view mirror," said Morgan.

ALEX QUON/FOR METRO

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'Like I'm living in the future'

TECHNOLOGY

Halifax headsets plug you into mind-blowing games



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

Soaring mountain views, underwater encounters with whales, and lightsaber battles are tucked away in the back of a former Halifax convenience store.

Halifax VR has won over fans of all ages and sold more than 100 memberships since its soft opening this past October in the former Ardmore Convenience at 2863 Oxford S., with virtual reality experiences that transport users as soon as they strap on the headset.

"It's so unique. I honestly feel like I'm living the future," co-founder and owner Dan Baldwin said last week beside the black hanging curtains that surround the VR (virtual reality) headset suspended on pulleys from the ceiling.

"I've put the headset on 100 times, and every time I put it on it's the same reaction — 'oh cool, oh my God.'"

Baldwin, who also owns the Daily Sweets store across the street, said the idea for Halifax VR came about when he and fellow founder Shawn Greene were brainstorming ideas for the Ardmore store after taking over the lease a year ago.

While they at first toyed with the idea of opening a vape shop, Baldwin said he had a "moral awakening" thinking about what would



"This is first generation. This is our Atari 2600 — what's it going to be in 10 years?"

Dan Baldwin

be best for the neighbourhood.

The store had become "more than a Needs" and was part of the community, he added.

Both men are big tech

guys, but Baldwin said he didn't know much about VR until Greene suggested they install a professional system in the store and bring in as many experiences as possible.

In Vesper Peak you feel on the edge of a mountain, or an underwater one has you on a sunken ship surrounded by fish before spotting a life-size whale passing overhead.

Knocking on wood, Baldwin said there has yet to be anyone who walk out saying the experience was "just okay" — even a recent couple in their 70s were floored, with the husband asking "how did they get all that



Left: Metro Halifax reporter Haley Ryan gets a hands-on demonstration of the VR technology. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Above: One of the scenes from the game Vesper Peak, an underwater experience where users come face-to-face with a life-sized whale. CONTRIBUTED

in there?"

Although the woman was skeptical at first, Baldwin said once she tried on the headset "she wouldn't get out."

"I'll never forget it, her in there when she started tippy-toeing around and then she got comfortable. It was just so cool."

A self-proclaimed Star Wars geek, Baldwin said his favourite VR moment was when Han Solo's Millennium Falcon landed beside him and R2D2 rolled out — just before whipping out his lightsaber to fight off stormtroopers.

"How many times in my life as a kid have you got to make the (lightsaber) sound yourself ... you hit the button and it's force feedback," Baldwin said, vibrating his fist.

"Honestly, I almost cried. I'm so glad I've lived so long to see this technology."

There's even an app for music lovers to build their own studio and create tunes

with the VR instruments, fly around our solar system in a space shuttle, or the popular Tilt Brush where you can draw or create anything you want.

Eventually Baldwin said he and Greene hope to roll out a "horror experience" based on a local filmmaker's script. They want to work with escape room creators to make digital versions of their games, and have more local content.

"This is first generation. This is our Atari 2600 — what's it going to be in 10 years?" Baldwin said.

+ CHECK IT OUT

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HALIFAX HEROES Ordinary people doing extraordinary things

You couldn't DIY without this guy

HANDINESS

Meet the man who keeps the Halifax Tool Library going



Jen Taplin
For Metro | Halifax

Clay Radcliffe loves the DIY life.

Designer at a Halifax architecture firm by trade, Radcliffe also knows his way around household projects, and all the tools that go with them.

So when Radcliffe heard about a start-up non-profit project — the Halifax Tool Library — he was intrigued. For \$50 a year, members can borrow tools, from the unique to the mundane.

"The Tool Library is unique because as much as I talk about it, nobody seems to have a negative thing to say about it," Radcliffe said. "It's really nice to be involved in a group or organization that has a 100 per cent positive reaction."

The Tool Library started with a crowd-funding campaign in 2013 and opened up in a corner of the Bike Again shop on Almon Street in 2014. It was a year later when Radcliffe found about it and at that point they had 650 tools donated by individuals and companies. But it hit a snag: the board was having trouble with rules and governance.

"Like in many of these groups the difficulty becomes when you try to take these big picture ideas and try to make reality on the ground," he said.

Radcliffe jumped in with a



Clay Radcliffe in his element at the Halifax Tool Library. JEFF HARPER/METRO

whole lot of energy and know-how and the Tool Library prospered. It now has over 1,300

tools in the inventory, a bigger space, and 24 volunteers. "I became very enthusiastic

about what the Tool Library was about and when I got in there I realized it was even better than I imagined," Radcliffe said.

It wasn't an industrial tool operation like he expected, but a community of people with a passion for DIY living

and sustainability.

"I'm a firm believer in the philosophy that energy attracts energy. I think that's been my biggest contribution to the tool library: I've had the luxury of a bit of time and extra energy I can throw at the Tool Library."

+ NAME A HERO

Keep the nominations coming, Halifax.

Halifax Heroes has become such a popular weekly feature for us we are doing it again in 2017 after debuting last February. Each week, we will profile an unsung volunteer hero in our community as part of Halifax Heroes.

To nominate someone, email philip.croucher@metronews.ca, Metro Halifax's managing editor, or Tweet @metrohalifax using the hashtag #HalifaxHeroes

Radcliffe commits about 30 hours a week to the Tool Library but he's hardly one to shoulder the success of the project. He said it is very much a team effort.

"For a group that's a sharing economy, it's tough to stand out and take praise and individual honours," he said.

"It's fun to throw your energy at something that is so positive but it also personally rewarding to have that energy sent back to you and the enthusiasm of others. That's been a huge part of the experience for me."

Something else Radcliffe is proud of is the diversity of the Tool Library community. The gender mix is around 50-50, he said, and includes people from different backgrounds.

"Our membership is extremely diverse: we have members who are experienced and who are looking for that one-off tool they don't want to pay for, and brand new people who are enthusiastic but inexperienced about tool use."



It's a pleasure to work with such a diverse group and a pleasure to share my passion for doing things by hand. Clay Radcliffe



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RESCUE

Six saved from tanker

The Canadian Coast Guard says six crew members have been safely rescued from a tanker that ran aground off Nova Scotia.

Anne Miller, a regional director with the coast guard's Atlantic region, says the Acra 1 ran aground just north of Sydney Mines around 8 a.m. Sunday after losing engine power.

Miller says the small tanker was in the Atlantic region en route to Mexico with no cargo on board when it experienced mechanical difficulties.

She says the vessel, which was carrying 15 tonnes of fuel for its own engines, was headed to Sydney to address those issues when it ran aground.

Miller says a Cormorant helicopter safely removed the six crew members from the ship.

She says there has been no reports of pollution and the ship's hull has not been seriously damaged.

Miller says federal officials were monitoring the ship.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Social media post prompts evacuation

Police in Halifax are telling people to watch what they post on social media after a photo of a man holding a realistic-looking paintball gun prompted a partial evacuation of a university dormitory.

Investigators say security staff at Saint Mary's University were shown a photo Friday evening of a man holding what appeared to be an assault rifle inside a university residence.

Police say they were then called to the building and evacuated the floor where the student suspected of being in the photo lived.

The student was not there, but was found at another location and was taken into custody.

However, police soon learned the item in the photo was a

NO CHARGES

Halifax police said no charges have been laid.

paintball gun, not an assault rifle.

Halifax police say people should not post photos of themselves on social media with guns that appear to be real.

"Police have to treat these investigations as if they were firearms which could potentially lead to dangerous situations," Halifax Regional Police said a news release.

"It also ties up police resources and could result in various charges for the person posting the pictures."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

LOTTO MAX DRAW

\$1M ticket sold in Dartmouth

A ticket worth \$1 million from Friday night's Lotto Max draw was sold in Dartmouth. The whopping \$60 million jackpot was

claimed by a single ticket sold in Quebec. There were 42 Maxmillions prizes of \$1 million each up for grabs.

METRO HALIFAX WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Shanna and Lionel Desmond and their daughter Aaliyah in a photo from the Facebook page of Shanna Desmond. FACEBOOK/CONTRIBUTED

Feds paying for family's funerals

UPPER BIG TRACADIE

Vigil held on weekend for four found dead in home

The federal government confirmed it will pay for the funerals of four people found dead in a Nova Scotia home last Tuesday.

However, Veterans Affairs officials would not elaborate further Saturday on details of the payment for the services for Lionel Desmond, his wife, mother and daughter.

Media reports quote family members as saying they were told Saturday afternoon that the government would cover funeral costs.

Police have said Desmond shot his 31-year-old wife Shanna, their 10-year-old

daughter Aaliyah and his mother Brenda Desmond, 52, in their home in Upper Big Tracadie before killing himself.

Family members have said the former soldier was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder after a tour in Afghanistan in 2007, and had received treatment from the military.

Obituaries posted on an Antigonish funeral home

\$22,000

An online fundraising campaign to help pay for the Desmond family's funeral expenses had raised nearly \$22,000 in donations by Saturday evening. The gofundme.com campaign set a target of raising \$30,000.

website said a visitation for Desmond and his mother was to be held on Tuesday in Tracadie. Funeral services were planned for Wednesday. There was no immediate word on the arrangements for Desmond's slain wife and child.

The obituary for Lionel Desmond said he "succumbed to the tortures of PTSD" relating to his service in Afghanistan. It described him as having a friendly demeanour and a contagious smile.

His mother's obituary described her as an "avid bingo player" who was well known for her smile and laughter.

A candlelight vigil was held in Upper Big Tracadie Saturday night to mourn the deaths of the family members.

Global News reported that dozens of people gathered for the event to remember the Desmond family.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

Police looking for wanted man

Police are asking for help finding a Nova Scotia man wanted for breaching his conditions. He is considered violent.

East Hants District RCMP said in a release they were looking for 41-year-old Clive Anthony Pearson.

Pearson was serving a three-year sentence relating to Trafficking and Possession (CDSA), police said, and other charges. While on statutory release, he breached his conditions and a warrant was issued by Correctional Services Canada.



Clive Pearson. CONTRIBUTED

Police said Pearson has a

"significant" criminal record including assaults, drugs, threats, property-related offenses, and failure to comply with court orders.

He is considered to be violent and is banned from having access to firearms.

Pearson is known to frequent the areas of Noel Shore, Lower Sackville and Mount Uniacke, and is described as 5 feet 6 inches and 221 pounds, with blue eyes, brown hair while partially bald.

METRO

EDMONTON

Cemetery searches for its artist-in-residence



Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

Here's an eerily good opportunity: The City of Edmonton is giving one artist the chance of a lifetime — to work among the dead.

The Edmonton Arts Council has put out a call for applications to be the first artist-in-residence hosted by City of Edmonton Cemeteries.

The chosen artist will get to work on art in local cemeteries as a full-time job for six months, with a primary studio space on the second floor of a building at Mount Pleasant.

While some might find the space unnerving, Teena Changarathil, supervisor of cemetery sales and operations with the city, said it could be inspiring.

"It's very historic. A lot of what we do with cemeteries is we have beautiful parkland,

and it's really a warm and inviting place," Changarathil said.

"Once you get past the initial cemetery part of it and actually focus in on the area and the work that we do and our staff and the customers that we work with on a regular basis, the sombreness kind of fades away and the comfort and connections and history comes to light."

Some bodies buried in Edmonton's Mount Pleasant cemetery date back to the 1800s.

The building that houses the studio space sits on one of the city's highest geographical points, and also holds administrative offices and niches for cremated remains.

The selected artist will develop a "body" of work throughout their residency and will showcase their final products with an exhibition at an undetermined location.

They will also engage with staff by offering art workshops and other interactive projects.



Teena Changarathil calls the plan "historic." KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO



Dominic Coballe wearing one of the T-shirts he designed about Ottawa's image problem. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

Ottawa's self-esteem issue worn on sleeve

CULTURE

Fun take on T-shirt slogan sparks debate



Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

Could Ottawa eventually become a major cultural hub — the Portland of Canada? Maybe, says designer Dominic Coballe, but first they need to deal with their self-esteem problem.

Coballe, co-founder N-Product, is promoting those conversations in 2017 with a tongue-in-cheek art project: a black shirt that reads "Ottawa vs. Itself."

The T-shirt is a take on a project in Detroit, where graphic designer Tommy Walker created T-shirts with the slogan: "Detroit vs. Everybody." A similar design in Toronto sparked a copyright war in 2015. Coballe was discussing the shirts with friends last summer when he made an honest

joke about Ottawa.

"Ottawa could never get away with an Ottawa vs. Everybody. It would more likely be Ottawa vs. Itself. We're our own worst enemies," he said. "Whether you were raised here or you're a transplant, you kind of get that vibe: We don't think we're cool enough."

Coballe Photoshopped a mockup of the design and, after posting the image on Facebook, there was

such a demand for T-shirts that Coballe decided to print a run as an art project.

"A lot of people loved it. Some people were like, 'What does it mean? Are you taking a swipe at Ottawa?'" he said. Whether you get the joke or not, Coballe said he's hoping it gets people talking about the city.

"I'm from Ottawa, I love this town, we have a family here. Some people see it as 'we're our own worst enemies' but some people think it's uplifting, because we're also our own worst critic. We're actually better than what we think we are."

Dog ransom call 'went bad so quickly'

It was the call she was hoping for, but not the call she expected.

Denise Ramsay's German shepherd golden retriever mix had been missing for four days after vanishing from her yard in Miramichi, N.B. She received a call on New Year's Day and the man on the other end of the line said he had Sadie.

"He could have been my hero," Ramsay said. "But it went bad so quickly."

She said the man wanted money in exchange for the dog and said he would not give it back until the cash was his.

"My husband told the man he would meet him anywhere, and he said, 'No, that's not how this



Denise Ramsay and her dogs.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

is going to go down. You need to send me the money first," according to Ramsay.

Not knowing if the man ac-

tually had Sadie, Ramsay kept him on the line and called 911 on another phone, but when the man realized the 911 operator was listening in on the conversation via speakerphone, he hung up.

Ramsay said if she wasn't so distraught, she would have taken the man's email and made the transfer.

"All he had to do was say, 'I found your dog,' and he would have got a reward and he would have been my best friend for the rest of my life," said Ramsay, adding that police have said they will watch out for Sadie, but there's not much else they can do at this point. THE CANADIAN PRESS

2016	SUPREME COURT OF NOVA SCOTIA	Hfx No. 452212
BETWEEN	FIRST NATIONAL FINANCIAL GP CORPORATION	PLAINTIFF
	- and -	
	MARIO STEPHAN JOSEPH BLANCHETTE and KIMBERLEY ANNE BLANCHETTE	DEFENDANTS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION		
To be sold at Public Auction under an order for foreclosure, sale, and possession, unless before the time of sale the amount due to the plaintiff on the mortgage under foreclosure, plus costs to be taxed, are paid:		
Property: All that piece or parcel of land situate lying and being known as Civic No. 380 Tattenham Crescent, Hammonds Plains, in the County of Halifax, Province of Nova Scotia being more particularly described in a mortgage made between Kimberley Anne Blanchette and Mario Stephan Joseph Blanchette, Mortgagors, and First National Financial GP Corporation, which mortgage is recorded at the Land Registry Office for the County of Halifax, as Document No. 104569927. The subject property has been migrated to the Land Registry System and is known as PID No. 40835712. The property is subject to Restrictive Covenants and a General Utility Easement as designated on the Plan of Survey registered in the Land Registry for the County of Halifax as Document No. 33377, Drawer 365.		
Date of Sale:	January 30, 2017.	
Time of Sale:	10:30 a.m., local time.	
Place of Sale:	The Law Courts, 1815 Upper Water Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 1S7	
Terms:	Ten per cent (10%) deposit payable by cash, certified cheque or solicitor's trust cheque at the time of sale, remainder within fifteen days upon delivery of deed.	
SIGNED at Halifax, Nova Scotia on January 5, 2017.		
Richard A. Bureau MORRIS BUREAU Solicitor for the Plaintiff 307-6080 Young Street Halifax, NS B3K 5L2		I. Andrew Rankin, Barrister Burchells LLP

Questions swirl in airport shooting

FORT LAUDERDALE

Iraq war veteran charged in the deaths of five people

Florida airport shooting suspect Esteban Santiago, facing federal charges that could potentially result in a death sentence, has his first court hearing Monday. Santiago, a 26-year-old Iraq war veteran from Anchorage, Alaska, is charged with committing violence against people at an international airport resulting in death and with two firearms offences. The hearing Monday is only the beginning of what will likely be a lengthy journey through the federal court system following the shooting at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport that killed five people and wounded six others.

HOW LIKELY IS THE DEATH PENALTY?

Although the charges carry

a potential death sentence, the Justice Department will decide later whether to pursue that penalty assuming Santiago is convicted. Many other issues can come into play, such as whether he decides to plead guilty or go to trial. Guilty pleas usually do not result in death sentences.

DOES SANTIAGO HAVE A DEFENCE?

Uphill at best. There are dozens of witnesses to the shooting and the FBI said in an affidavit that he told agents in a post-arrest interview how he planned the attack, what weapon he brought with him to Florida, how he loaded the gun from his checked luggage in an airport bathroom and came out firing. There is also video surveillance of the shooting that shows the shooting and its aftermath. Santiago was arrested after running out of ammunition and lying spread-eagle on the floor until a deputy took him in to custody, his 9mm handgun nearby.

WHAT ABOUT MENTAL ISSUES?

Santiago's attorney can ask

for a mental competency evaluation to determine if he is fit to stand trial. It's a fairly high standard for any defendant to escape criminal charges because of mental problems because many defendants understand the difference between right and wrong. The main issue for the court is whether a defendant is too impaired to assist in his own defence. Most defendants who go this route are ultimately judged fit for trial and the mental health issue becomes a factor at sentencing.

IF TERRORISM LINKS ARE FOUND, THEN WHAT?

Federal prosecutors could obtain a new grand jury indictment charging Santiago with terrorism-related offences, either adding them to the existing charges or substituting them. So far, officials have said they have uncovered no evidence linking Santiago to international terrorism. But he did tell authorities in Alaska that U.S. intelligence agencies were directing him to take orders from Daesh.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



WEATHER EXTREME COLD GRIPS EUROPE Migrants warm themselves by the fire inside a derelict customs warehouse on Saturday. Blizzards and dangerously low temperatures persisted in parts of Europe, prompting Pope Francis to draw attention to the homeless suffering in the cold. In Serbia, aid workers scrambled to help hundreds of migrants sleeping in makeshift shelters. The extreme winter weather that has gripped Europe has caused more than a dozen deaths and left many villages cut off. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

BRAZIL

Lord (of the Rings) hear my prayer



Andrew Fifield
Metro | Toronto

A Brazilian woman claimed a late entrant to the "funniest discovery of 2016" after learning an elderly relative had been unknowingly

praying daily to a Lord of the Rings tchotchke.

Gabriela Brandao, a beautician from Florianapolis, had a hunch something was amiss with what a great-grandmother thought was a figurine of a Catholic saint.

"My daughter's great-grandmother prays to this figure of

San Antonio every day," Brandao wrote on Facebook. "But looking closer..."

An inspection revealed the figure's finery had an environmental bent, indicative of Elrond, the half-elf Lord of Rivendell and not Saint Anthony, patron saint of lost things.



Something seemed off about a Brazilian woman's Saint Anthony figurine. FACEBOOK

UNITED STATES

Trump accepts Russia's role in hacking, aide says

U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's incoming chief of staff, Reince Priebus, said Sunday that Russia has accepted that Russia meddles in the election and was responsible for hacking

the Democratic National Committee and a top aide to Hillary Clinton.

"He's not denying that entities in Russia were behind this particular campaign," Priebus said. That's more than Trump himself has said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The quest to find worth in waste

TECH PRIZE

A commercial use for CO2 could save the atmosphere

What if carbon dioxide emissions could be transformed from a liability into an asset?

That's the \$20-million question behind the NRG COSIA Carbon XPrize, a global competition to create technology that converts carbon dioxide into valuable products.

"In energy and climate, few ideas are as potentially transformative as the idea of turning the economics of CO2 and climate change on its head," said Marcus Extavour, director of technical operations for the prize.

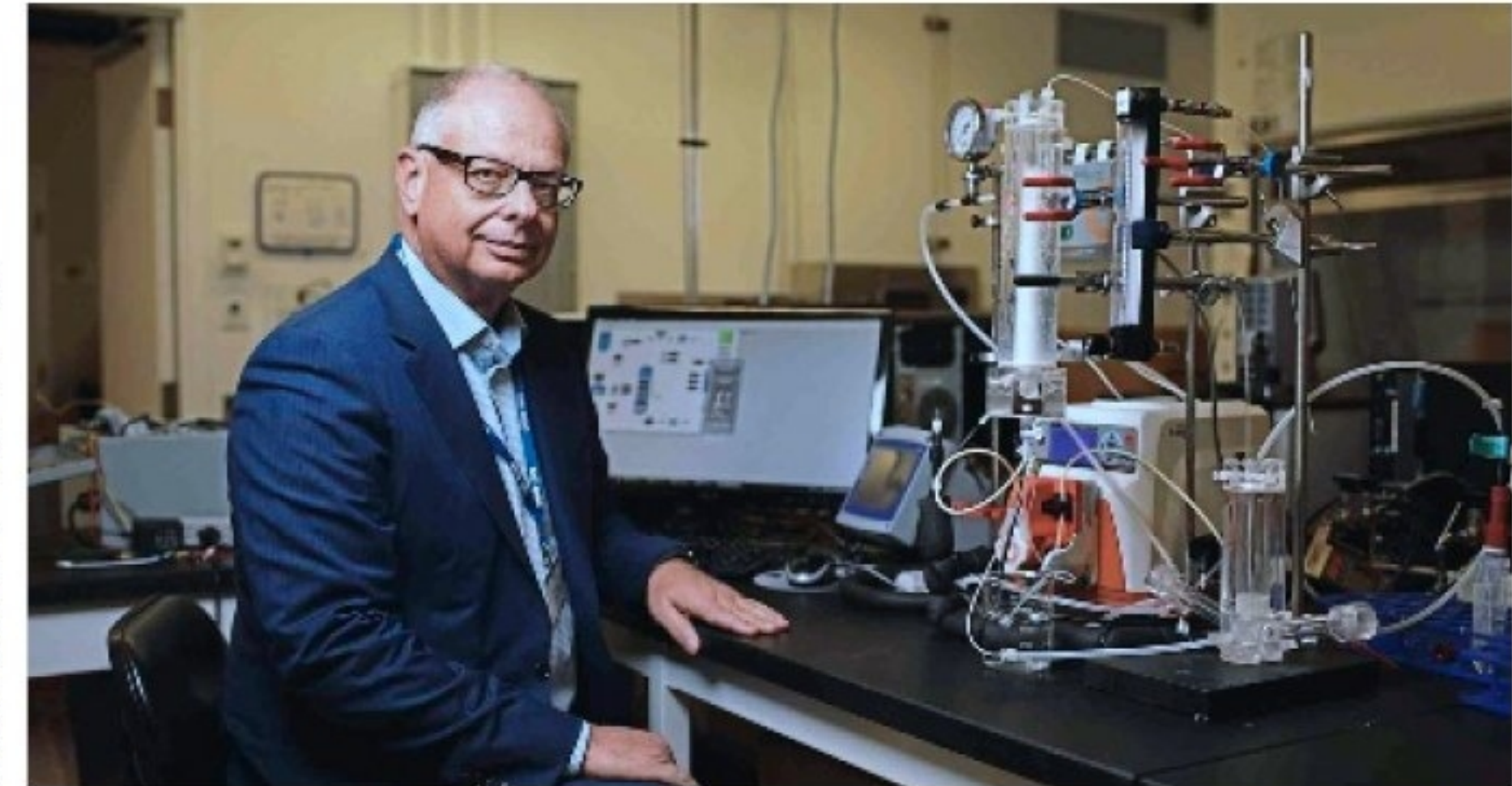
The multi-million dollar prize is funded by the industry group Canada's Oil Sands Innovation Alliance and U.S. company NRG. Ten finalists will be announced in 2018 and a winner will be revealed in 2020.

Here's a look at some of the Canadian semifinalists:

INGENUITY LAB, EDMONTON

Ingenuity Lab director Carlo Montemagno has engineered a new way to capture CO2 from industrial gas emissions. His technology harnesses photosynthesis, the process plants use to convert carbon dioxide into chemical energy using light.

The technology mimics the biochemical reactions of photosynthesis in non-living materials to generate the energy to transform the carbon dioxide into valuable products. It takes the



Ingenuity Lab director Carlo Montemagno has engineered a new way to capture CO2 from industrial gas emissions. His foam bioreactor technology harnesses photosynthesis, the process plants use to convert carbon dioxide into chemical energy using light. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

"We're taking garbage, and we're turning it into a valuable product and solving climate change all in one step. Chris Stern

CO2 from flue gas and builds the carbons up into long chains, with the result being that 47 different specialty chemicals can be produced.

Montemagno added that plants require a significant amount of energy to grow, so they're not very efficient at sequestering carbon to produce value-added chemicals. But in his technology, no energy has

to be spent to keep an organism alive, so all the output can go toward the products that one wants to create.

TERRA CO2 TECHNOLOGIES, VANCOUVER

Terra CO2 Technologies is developing a technique to transform acid rock drainage and carbon dioxide emissions — two damaging byproducts of mining

— into a stable substance.

Acid rock drainage refers to the acidic water that results when sulfide minerals are exposed to air and water and produce sulphuric acid, which is harmful to wildlife if it leaks into waterways. Mining companies must use costly methods to contain the drainage, including treating it with lime and storing it in large tailings ponds.

The company uses a common iron-sulfide mineral called pyrite or "fool's gold" as an example. It pulls CO2 out of the air and combines with the iron to make an iron carbonate, which is stable in normal atmospheric conditions

and doesn't produce any acid.

"Our application for the technology is huge for the mining industry," said Terra CEO Dylan Jones. "We're looking at it as a cost-saving technology."

CARBICRETE, MONTREAL

Cement produces a great deal of greenhouse gas emissions — about one tonne of CO2 for every tonne of cement. That's why Carbicrete invented a way to make concrete without using cement.

Instead of using cement to bind together the concrete, the company uses steel slag, a by-product of the steel-making process that mostly ends up in

landfills. In doing so, it avoids the CO2 emissions associated with cement.

Mehrdad Mahoutian, who originally invented the technology at McGill University, added that precast concrete products are normally cured with heat and steam, but Carbicrete cures its concrete with CO2 gas, which permanently sequesters the CO2 and keeps it out of the atmosphere.

In effect, the product is carbon-negative concrete.

"We're taking garbage, and we're turning it into a valuable product and solving climate change all in one step," said CEO Chris Stern.

CARBONCURE TECHNOLOGIES, DARTMOUTH, N.S.

Nova Scotia-based CarbonCure Technologies has also developed a way to use CO2 to make better concrete.

The company takes CO2 from any industrial source — a power plant or a refinery, for example — and injects it into concrete, where it is sequestered and turned into a solid. The process reduces the carbon footprint of the product by taking CO2 out of the air and turning it into a solid material, which happens to make concrete stronger, and also cuts down the concrete producer's costs.

There is more concrete manufactured on the earth than any other material, so this technology has the potential to reduce significant quantities of CO2, said vice-president of sustainability Jennifer Wagner.

"The technology makes concrete stronger, greener and less expensive to manufacture."

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URBAN ETIQUETTE ELLEN VANSTONE



THE QUESTION Should I lie my way out of being bridesmaid to my husband's best friend's fiancée who I don't like?

Dear Ellen,
My husband's best friend got engaged over Christmas, and now his fiancée asked me to be her bridesmaid. I don't want to do it. I've already been a bridesmaid four times this year. I don't like her. I tried to put her off by politely declining the "honour" but she won't accept no for an answer. It's so much work and expense even when you like the person. My current plan is to lie my way out of it. Advice?

Reluctant Bridesmaid

Dear Reluctant Bridesmaid,
Hmmm, I'm thinking The Reluctant Bridesmaid would be an excellent title for a horror movie. Let's hope it doesn't come to that.

With the bare facts you have supplied, I would say you owe this person nothing, and that a firm "thank you but I really must say no" is a more-than-acceptable way to get out of it.

I would also condone a big fat fake excuse, as I believe that lying one's face off to get out of certain (but not all) situations in order to avoid hurting someone's feelings is also completely acceptable.

The problem here is that your husband is a liability. If he's the groom's best friend, he will no doubt attend the wedding, and possibly even act as best man. Which would make him a conspicuous presence at the proceed-



© Ani Castillo

ings. Which means you can't pretend to have a terrible disease, or a dying relative, or that you are on a dangerous intergalactic mission to save the world, without making him look like a total d— for blowing you off to attend the nuptials.

As for telling the brutal truth, you may not care what the fiancée thinks of you. But if she's marrying your husband's best friend, you have to take the men's relationship into account.

Ideally, the two of them will socialize and do guy things without involving you womenfolk for the rest of their lives. (And I have to

say, the old-fashioned habit of forced double-dating between couples is a tradition that deserves to die ASAP.)

But if there's any chance the best friend would be hurt by your refusal to join the wedding party, or that his hurt feelings might affect your husband's friendship with him, you must take that into account.

It doesn't mean you need to submit to emotional blackmail and agree to trot up the aisle with Bridezilla. It just means you have to discuss it with your husband, and work something out. Maybe he'll agree the guilt-trip bridesmaid gig is

a lot of expense and trouble that's too much to ask, and you'll both agree to find a way out of it, regardless of what his best friend thinks. Or maybe he'll feel it's important to his friend, and ask you to suck it up — at which point you will have to make up your own mind what to do.

Whatever your choice, make sure your own precious marriage doesn't get sacrificed on the wedding altar of people you don't care about at all.

Need advice?
Email Ellen:
scene@metronews.ca

VICKY MOCHAMA

Canada will party while indigenous kids are denied services

For the vast portion of Canadian history, indigenous communities have been stripped of their rights. Underfunding students, bickering over health costs, and allowing children to slip into child welfare cracks is how those rights continue to be abridged.

According to a report last week in the Globe and Mail, over the next year, the federal government plans to spend nearly half a billion dollars on Canada 150. While some of that money will go towards promoting truth and reconciliation, spending millions on a party while indigenous children, families and communities fight for equitable services is a hypocrisy.

Last week, the Toronto Star reported that the Assembly of First Nations and First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada filed a motion to the human rights tribunal asking for the federal government to be found guilty. One year ago, the tribunal ordered the government to comply with Jordan's Principle, a law enacted in 2007. The motion alleges that they have failed to heed the tribunal's orders.

Jordan's Principle requires the government to take a child-first approach to providing services to all First Nations children. The government that is first contacted — be it federal or provincial — takes on the cost of a child's services and seeks to solve jurisdictional issues only after those services have first been paid for.

The law is meant to ensure that all indigenous children

receive equal access to government services with the same level of service that non-indigenous children do.

In education, for example, there are significant gaps between what indigenous students on-reserve receive versus provincially funded students. (Education is a provincial responsibility, except in the case of First Nations children living on-reserve.)

A report last month from the parliamentary budget office found shortfalls in what Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) provided for students on-reserve and what their provincial counterpart receive. In their estimation, the funding shortfall between what INAC paid for and what the various provinces would be between \$336 million and \$665 million in 2016-2017.

The human rights tribunal case — and many others — is evidence of an ongoing process of depriving indigenous children of equitable and humane services.

Organizations like First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada are continually forced to sue the government to provide for services that are standard and sacrosanct for non-indigenous children.

The most recent federal budget provides \$3.7 billion in funding for indigenous students over the next five years. But too much of that money won't be seen for a few years yet. Generations of indigenous children will be lost in the meantime.

If she's marrying your husband's best friend, you have to take the men's relationship into account.

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‘When the powerful use their position to bully others, we all lose’: Streep

GOLDEN GLOBES

Meryl Streep speech delivers takedown of Donald Trump

In accepting her speech for a lifetime achievement award at Sunday night's Golden Globes, Meryl Streep used the opportunity to criticize U.S. president-elect Donald Trump.

"When the powerful use their position to bully others, we all

lose," said Streep, referencing Trump's mocking of a reporter with a disability.

The actress also gave an ode to her fellow actors in a changing Hollywood, referencing the diverse cultural backgrounds of Dev Patel, Ruth Negga, and others. (Even Ryan Gosling received mention for being Canadian.) She used that as an opportunity to take a shot at Trump's intolerant stance when it comes to immigration.

"Hollywood is crawling with outsiders and foreigners and if

you kick them all out, you'll have nothing to watch but football and mixed martial arts, which are not the arts," Streep said to loud applause.

La La Land came into the Golden Globes as the big favourite. Damien Chazelle's Los Angeles musical, which had a leading seven nominations, won best actor for Gosling, best screenplay for Chazelle's script, best score (Justin Hurwitz) and best song for "City of Stars," and best musical or comedy film.

In one of the evening's more

emotional acceptance speeches, Gosling dedicated his award to his late brother-in-law, Juan Carlos Mendes.

"While I was singing and dancing and playing piano and having one of the best experiences I've ever had on a film, my lady was raising our daughter, pregnant with our second and trying to help her brother fight his battle with cancer," said Gosling, referring to his partner, Eva Mendes.

The Globes got off to a rocky start, when a broken teleprompt-

er initially froze Fallon. "Cut to Justin Timberlake, please," implored a desperately improvising Fallon. It was the second fiasco for Globes producer Dick Clark Productions, which presented the infamous Mariah Carey flub on New Year's Eve.

In a more truncated monologue, Fallon's sharpest barbs weren't directed at celebrities

but president-elect Trump. He compared Trump to the belligerent teenage king Joffrey of Thrones. Fallon's first line (at least once the teleprompter was

up) was introducing the Globes as "one of the few places left where America still honours the popular vote."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/METRO



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES



- 1 **Sparkle and shine** — Futuristic metallics were all over the red carpet at this year's Golden Globes. From left: Ruth Negga in Louis Vuitton, Regina King in Romona Keveza, Emma Stone in Valentino and Chrissy Teigen in Marchesa.
- 2 **Parade of pinks** — Lily Collins wore a princessy Zuhair Murad gown — one of many actresses in pink. "I love this colour. It's fun, it's fresh, it's great," she said.

- 3 **Comedy gold** — "It's nice here, at 44," joked Tracee Ellis Ross, referencing her age, when she won for best actress in a comedy for her role in Black-ish.
- 4 **Art and heart** — Viola Davis, best supporting actress, said of Fences: "It doesn't scream money-maker but it does scream art. It does scream heart."

JOHANNA SCHNELLER
WHAT I'M WATCHING

Behind bright lights of fame



The late Carrie Fisher and Debbie Reynolds lived side by side, their public and private lives indistinguishable. CONTRIBUTED

THE SHOW: Bright Lights: Starring Carrie Fisher and Debbie Reynolds (HBO)
THE MOMENT: Scooting through the casino

Debbie Reynolds, mid-80s, is about to appear in her final stage show, in a lesser Las Vegas casino. Wearing a long black sweater and a tan knit hat, she rides a scooter across the vast casino floor.

This documentary from directors Alexis Bloom and Fisher Stevens shows us that Reynolds was one of the world's most famous women. When her husband Eddie Fisher left her for Elizabeth Taylor, the scandal made Brad/Angelina/Jennifer look pale. But in the casino, she's just another grandma; no one glances her way.

Backstage in a sequined gown that weighs more than she does, Reynolds can barely move. She shuffles gingerly to the stage entrance, a sliver of space between a potted plant and a speaker. But the minute

her toe crosses that line, her shoulders snap back, and she sashays into the spotlight — where she belongs.

I don't know if Bloom and Stevens set out to make Grey Gardens: Hollywood, but that's what they did. Bright Lights is a 94-minute meditation on fame, demonstrating that some people are built for it, and need it like they need food and drink — even if, like food and drink, some of it is bad for them.

Watching it removes some of the sting that Reynolds and her daughter Carrie Fisher recently died a day apart. They lived side by side. They had to be each other's best friends, because only they understood that their public and private lives were indistinguishable. Celebrity had permeated their DNA. It's admirable. It's pitiable. It's fascinating.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

CW LOCKS UP SERIES

Jane The Virgin and Crazy Ex-Girlfriend renewed

The CW network says it has already renewed seven of its series for another season in the fall, including Supernatural and the critical favourites Jane the Virgin and Crazy Ex-Girlfriend.

The network said Sunday that the one-season NBC series Constantine is also being reimaged as an animated series on the CW's digital network, with real-life star Matt Ryan signing on as the voice of the his

character.

Supernatural will be back for its 13th season, and CW President Mark Pedowitz said there's no end in sight. Supergirl, Arrow, The Flash and DC's Legends of Tomorrow will also be returning.

Jane the Virgin and Crazy Ex-Girlfriend stars Gina Rodriguez and Rachel Bloom have won Golden Globes for their roles, and their critical success overshadows their commercial fortunes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jenny (Jessalyn Wanlim), Anne (Dani Kind), Kate (Catherine Reitman), and Frankie (Juno Rinaldi) star in CBC's new comedy Workin' Moms, which premieres on Tuesday, Jan. 10. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kohler's Workin' progress

COMEDY

Portraying women with 'well-rounded problems'

Genna Buck
Metro



Writer and stand-up comedian Rebecca Kohler has been flexing her funny bone in the writers' room of such shows as Schitt's Creek and Kim's Convenience.

Now she's working on the sitcom Workin' Moms, CBC's new, irreverent take on the quest to have it all. But before she hit it big in the world of TV, she was the resident funny lady on the Metro Views page. We caught up with her to talk about the show, how she got into the mind of a mom and the real story behind its unique title.

Tell me about the premise of this show.

There's four main characters and they all have jobs and they all have kids. That's the through line. They have very different lives, with different, well-rounded problems and perspectives. I think four different female characters, all interesting, all funny, all touching at times — you don't get a lot

of room in a lot of situations to portray women like that.

How did you get involved?

My agent sent me a sizzle reel. It's almost like a trailer for what the show could look like. And I really liked it. I thought, 'these characters are interesting, the type of women I feel like I would hang out with.' And it was funny. I really connected with it. And I had an interview with Catherine Reitman (who plays the lead, Kate Foster) and Philip Sternberg (her co-star and real-life husband), who are both executive producers of the show, and about a month later I found out that they wanted to hire me.

The tone seems a little bit more tart than an average CBC comedy...

Tart is what it is. It's not vanilla. I've worked on a few CBC shows this year, and I feel like (the network) is trying to, outside of just Workin' Moms, step out of what people have come to think of as the CBC. They're trying to take more risks. There are definitely things in this show that will make the average CBC viewer

be like, "What channel is this that I'm watching?"

There are other working mothers on TV. Why does this need to happen now?

It's not just about having women on TV and film. It's about having real women. These women are portrayed the way men have always been portrayed. It's (also) not just about being a mom. It's about being a woman who is like, "You can't grab me by the f—ing p—sy! Go f—k yourself!" Pardon my language.

You had to put yourself in the mom headspace to write this — but you don't have children. How did you go about that?

All of my best friends have children. I talk to my best friend who I've known for 20-plus years, and hear her stories. I never want to say I've lived as a mom and I know what it's like. I don't, and I would never presume. Part of what I'm good at is listening and respecting those stories and trying to communicate them as best I can.

This show really has a sense

of place. It's so obviously Toronto. Can you talk a little bit about the importance of the setting?

A lot of the Toronto stuff came out through the photography and directing. When Catherine and Philip looked at Toronto, they were like 'Wow, what an amazing city, we want to showcase this.' We had an email chain where Catherine would drive by graffiti, take a photo of it and say, 'We need this in the show!' I think this is a perfect mix of showcasing a world-class city but also keeping it kind of universal.

The women are all extremely glamorous and well put-together — although I'm sure we'll see them get into all sorts of messy mom situations. Are these characters relatable?

We discussed that a lot in the (writers') room. You're right that this is not depicting a poor single mom. There's a fantasy element to it. These women are relatively privileged, but even someone with some privilege can have a hard time.

Why is it called Workin' Moms instead of Working Moms?

It was called Workin' Moms when I started, and it stayed Workin' Moms. It's because they're so busy, they don't have time to say the G! (laughs).

This interview has been edited and condensed for clarity.



“These are the type of women I feel like I would hang out with.” Rebecca Kohler

Time to get your house in order

PERSONAL FINANCE

A selection of columnist Gail Vaz-Oxlade's best advice

At the start of a new year, budgeting and savings goals are top of mind for many. Metro's editors selected their favourite pieces of advice from this past year's Gail Vaz-Oxlade columns that you may find useful. Whether you're a first-time home buyer or you just want to save for a great vacation this summer, these money management tips from Gail may help:

Clear the debt doubts

Recalculate your budget assuming your debt is gone and all that debt repayment money is yours for the keeping.

This is a great exercise for three reasons:

1. You will remind yourself of just how dumb debt is.
2. You will enjoy the anticipation of being debt free and that will help keep you on track.
3. You can start planning what you'll do with the money once you do get to debt-free forever.

Settle the score on credit

You should understand how a credit score is calculated and the extent to which it is based on you doing the wrong thing with your credit. The very things that give you a high score — that make you a profitable customer — are completely counter to sound money management.

Despite the fact that I pay off my balance in full every month, the credit scoring system penalizes me if it randomly checks my "credit utilization" and it's up too high. No one can predict the exact point at which the credit scoring system checks a balance, so if I'm close to my limit just before I plan to pay off my balance, I'd lose points big-time.

Quit chasing a high credit score. Focus on managing your

money smartly and getting to debt-free forever. Then your credit score won't matter a whit.

Map out your way

You may think your filing system is intuitive because you've gone to great pains to organize it and put things in a logical order, but the first time your partner looks at it, they'll be lost.

Create a list of what's what and where it is so that there is a roadmap your honey can follow. There's a good chance that you're counting on your awesome memory for a lot of what you do. Putting it on paper will help you to identify where there may be steps you have overlooked.

Don't give in to impulse

Emotions play a huge role in our desire to impulse-buy. If we're angry, stressed, guilty or bored, we're more likely to impulse purchase. No doubt that's why instead of buying useful or necessary stuff, impulse shoppers buy things that put them in a better mood.

That old adage "don't go shopping on an empty stomach" doesn't just apply to grocery shopping. Psychologists at the National University of Singapore had participants shop in a room with an unscented candle or one with a cookie-scented candle. The shoppers exposed to the yummy smelling candle made more unplanned purchases. In fact, 50 per cent more people made purchases in the cookie room, even though both groups were told that they had a tight budget. Stimulating the appetite causes people to crave immediate gratification. That's where sleeping on it comes into play.

If you walk away from the idea of the buy, giving your brain enough time to weigh it up you're moving from impulse shopping to problem recognition.

Don't skip on inspection

There's an alarming trend among the people who are desperate to get into the housing market: they skip a home inspection or, having

had one done, they completely ignore the report.

It makes no sense to put good money down on what will likely be your single biggest investment without getting a professional opinion on the state of property you're considering.

Hire a good home inspector. Please. Currently, only British Columbia and Alberta regulate home inspectors, although Ontario may jump on this bandwagon shortly.



Creating a financial roadmap that your partner can understand and buy into is key. iStock

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CW LOCKS UP SERIES

Jane The Virgin and Crazy Ex-Girlfriend renewed

The CW network says it has already renewed seven of its series for another season in the fall, including Supernatural and the critical favourites Jane the Virgin and Crazy Ex-Girlfriend.

The network said Sunday that the one-season NBC series Constantine is also

being reimaged as an animated series on the CW's digital network, with real-life star Matt Ryan signing on as the voice of the his character. Supernatural will be back for its 13th season, and CW's Mark Pedowitz said there's no end in sight. Supergirl, Arrow, The Flash and DC's Legends of Tomorrow will also return. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro SPORTS

Wayne Rooney tied Bobby Charlton as Manchester United's all-time leading scorer with his 249th goal on Saturday in a 4-0 win over Reading



NBL CANADA CANES ROLL TO SIXTH STRAIGHT WIN TO START SEASON

The Halifax Hurricanes' Billy White looks for an opening around the Orangeville A's Slim Magee during regular-season NBL Canada action at Scotiabank Centre on Sunday. Halifax won 108-82 to improve to 6-0 on the season. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Green Bay prayers answered by Rodgers

NFL PLAYOFFS

Packers QB tosses up more long-ball magic vs. Giants

Aaron Rodgers, master of the Hail Mary pass, struck again in another big moment.

Rodgers overcame a sluggish start and finished with four touchdown passes, including a momentum-swinging 42-yard heave to Randall Cobb at the end of the second quarter, to lead the Green Bay Packers to a 38-13 win Sunday over the New York Giants in an NFC wild-card game.

The Packers move on to face the Dallas Cowboys in the divisional round next week.

Rodgers was 25 of 40 for 362 yards, continuing a remarkable run of quarterback play that helped the Packers win their final six games of the regular season to take the NFC North. Cobb finished with five receptions for 116 yards and three



Randall Cobb catches a 42-yard touchdown pass on Sunday evening in Green Bay, Wis. STACY REVERE/GETTY IMAGES

scores.

For much of the first half, the Giants' defence flustered the two-time NFL MVP. They got pressure on Rodgers and the secondary blanketed the Packers' talented receiving corps, and a few boos even rained down from the stands after New York built a 6-0 lead on two field goals by Robbie Gould.

As it turned out, Rodgers

was just getting started. Green Bay scored two TDs in the final 2:20 of the second quarter, punctuated by another remarkable desperation pass by Rodgers. With the ball on the Giants 42, Rodgers took the snap with six seconds left. He rolled to his right before heaving a throw from about the Packers 47. Cobb somehow got behind three defensive backs

near the back of the end zone to haul in the pass before falling out of bounds.

The Giants looked stunned, just like how the Detroit Lions and Arizona Cardinals looked last season after Rodgers pulled off similar feats.

Rodgers and Cobb weren't done.

They connected again on a 30-yard touchdown pass late in the third quarter for a 21-13 lead. That score answered a Giants scoring drive that briefly cut the deficit to one.

A Packers defence ranked 21st in points allowed (24.3) coming into the game limited the production of Odell Beckham Jr., and the Giants' receiving corps in spite of a battered secondary.

Beckham finished with four catches for 28 yards. Eli Manning was 23 of 44 for 299 yards, including the 41-yard touchdown pass to Tavarres King in the third quarter.

But the Giants were plagued by a series of drops by their receivers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

QMJHL

Herd fall in finale of 3-game weekend



Phillip Croucher
Metro | Halifax

It was almost a perfect weekend for the Halifax Mooseheads.

After posting home victories on Friday and Saturday, the Herd couldn't make it a three-games-in-three-days sweep as they fell 2-1 on the road to the Saint John Sea Dogs on Sunday afternoon.

Halifax trailed 1-0 through 20 minutes at Harbour Station, but tied things up in the second on Maxime Fortier's 22nd goal of the season.

In the third, Bokondji Imama beat 16-year-old goaltender Alex Gravel at the 38-second mark and that was it for offence.

With the win, the Sea Dogs earned some revenge against Halifax, which beat Saint John 4-1 on Saturday at Scotiabank Centre.

On Friday, the Mooseheads dumped the Moncton Wildcats 6-2.

Nico Hischier returned to the Mooseheads lineup on the weekend after playing for Team Switzerland at the world junior hockey championship.

He was held off the score-sheet Sunday, but had two goals and two assists on Friday, and recorded a goal and one helper in the win against Saint John.

Halifax is back in action Wednesday when it hosts the Charlottetown Islanders at 7 p.m.

NBA

Penguins pump six pucks past Bolts

Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 28 shots in his fifth straight win, leading the Pittsburgh Penguins to a 6-2 victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning on Sunday.

Fleury, who has not lost in regulation since allowing six goals to the Minnesota on Nov. 25, is 7-0-1 in his last eight decisions.

Connor Sheary had a goal and an assist, and Eric Fehr, Chris Kunitz, Scott Wilson, Phil Kessel and Kris Letang also scored for the Penguins. Sidney Crosby and Matt Cullen each two assists.

Former Halifax Mooseheads

SUNDAY In Pittsburgh

6	2
PENGUINS	LIGHTNING

forward Jonathan Drouin and Vladislav Namestnikov scored for the Lightning, and Andrei Vasilevskiy made 31 saves in his third start in four days.

Drouin put the Lightning up 1-0 at 2:19 of the second period before the Penguins scored the next four goals to take control of the game. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Thomas holds on to win Tournament of Champions

Justin Thomas bounced back in time Sunday to hold off Hideki Matsuyama and win the SBS Tournament of Champions.

Thomas closed with a 4-under 69 and ended Matsuyama's bid for a fourth straight win.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Justin Thomas
GETTY IMAGES

Alberta's Scheidegger victorious in slam debut

Casey Scheidegger could only watch last year's Canadian Open. This year she's the women's champion. Scheidegger, from Lethbridge, Alta., downed Switzerland's Silvana Tirinzoni 5-4 on Sunday in the Open final to win the title in her Grand Slam of Curling debut.

"We're just so excited," said Scheidegger. "There isn't much more to say, it was awesome."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Individual Breakfast Pizzas



PHOTO: MAYA WISNIE

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Let's start this week off easy, shall we? How about breakfast for dinner in the form of this delicious little pizza that comes together in a snap.

Ready in 25 minutes

Prep time: 5
Cook time: 20
Serves 2

Ingredients

- 2 pitas
- 1 cup passata (or tomato or pizza sauce)
- Salt and pepper
- 1 1/2 to 2 cups mozzarella, grated
- 1/4 cup crisply fried bacon, crumbled
- Few leaves of basil
- 2 eggs

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 450 F. Place pitas on baking sheet. Pour tomato sauce on pitas and spread around. Leave a little edge clear of sauce all the way around.

2. Sprinkle cheese on each pita and push out the edges so you make a nest for each egg. Sprinkle basil and bacon around the edge of cheese nest. Gently crack an egg in the middle.

3. Slide sheet carefully into oven. Bake 15 to 20 minutes, depending on how done you like your eggs.

4. Use a spatula to move egg pizza to a cutting board where you'll cut each pizza into four. Serve with slices of avocado, sour cream and a bit of salsa. Enjoy!

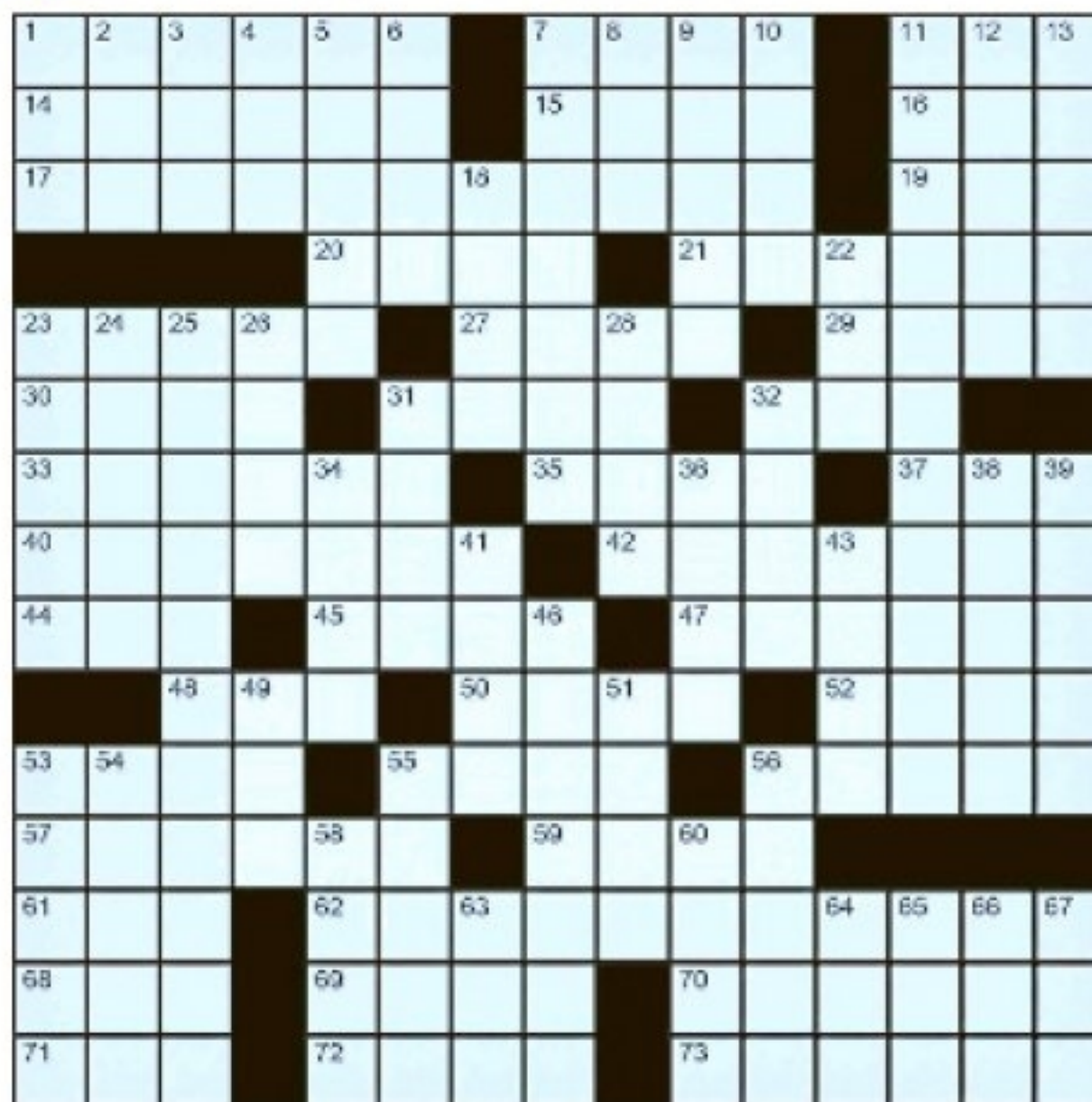
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. "I didn't realize it would take ___" (I thought this would be over by now)
7. ___ Carotene
11. Nevertheless
14. Affirmation, fancy-style
15. Get ___ the ground floor
16. Clearasil rival, ___ 5
17. Patented in 1894, Canadian inventor Theodore Witte's invention in your tool kit: 2 wds.
19. Knock at the door
20. Give off
21. Be bothersome
23. Greenfly, for one
27. Trivial things to pick
29. Immature newts
30. Repented
31. Gentle
32. Kingston Trio lettered tune
33. How most medication is taken
35. Consequently
37. Pen's cover
40. Imposing, as taxes
42. Master at La Scala
44. Grassy field
45. Caspian and Tyrrhenian
47. Flunky
48. Ho-hum habituation
50. Inscribe
52. Barrel
53. Mr. Kinnear
55. Unadorned
56. #11-Down is situated



- at its mouth, ___ River
57. Hurrying-up human
59. Empire of Peru
61. Vancouver sch.
62. Nova Scotia ___
___ Retriever (Sporting dog)
68. ___-ray player
69. Rock's ___ Straits

70. Oatmeal or chocolate chip
71. View
72. Burden
73. Addition-ally: 2 wds.

DOWN

1. Pouch
2. Latin-style eggs

3. Mr. Reed
4. Bird of the night
5. Without wearables
6. Flicker of light, for short
7. Successful spot, with The: 2 wds.
8. Manchester's country, for short

9. Experiences a destination
10. Ms. Kendrick
11. 1684: Hudson's Bay Company trading post in northeastern Manitoba which is now a National Historic Site of Canada: 2 wds.
12. Laud

13. Varieties
18. Fashion brand, ___ Ricci
22. Goalie's area
23. On ___ (Doing fantastic)
24. Mush (Recipe instruction)
25. Ontario's 400-series highways are the setting of Discovery Channel Canada's new series "___": 401
26. Lazily
28. Condition
31. England: Newcastle upon ___
32. ___ & Chandon Champagne
34. Shopper's reference
36. Large laceration
38. Lock horns
39. Hallmark inners
41. Earth goddess of ancient Greece
43. ___ crackers
46. Hits the pick-et line
49. "Gross!"
51. Penny
53. Chows
54. Russia's currency
55. Boston hockey player
56. Heavenly hats
58. Taro root
60. Funny lady Imogene
63. French vineyard
64. Stovetop setting
65. White House nickname
66. Zilch
67. Congeal

* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Think twice before you get into an argument with someone today, especially a sibling or relative, because you might regret it. Remember: A closed mouth gathers no feet.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
This is a poor day to make important financial decisions, because you are not 100 per cent sure about what you want to do. You're also not 100 per cent sure of the facts.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Be patient when talking with parents, bosses and authority figures today, because people are confused and impatient. Don't get involved. And never underestimate the power of courtesy.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Avoid controversial subjects like politics, religion and racial issues today, because these arguments will be pointless. There's too much confusion, and too much anger.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
If you need to sort out matters related to inheritances or shared property, wait another day, because this is not the day to do it. Truthfully, your heart is not in it. These talks will fail.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
It's easy to be quarrelsome with partners and close friends today, which is why this is a poor day for important discussions. This also is the classic day where people can kid themselves. It's not good.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Avoid sensitive subjects like politics and religion today, especially with coworkers. These conversations will go south in a New York minute. Who needs this? Not you.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Postpone financial discussions for another day, especially about the shared cost of raising children or a social event. This is not a good day for this kind of thing.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Be accommodating with others today, because the Moon is opposite your sign. In addition, Neptune and Mars are causing you to confuse an issue. Go gently.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Keep your head down and your powder dry today when you're at work. Don't go looking for trouble. It will find you. Both Mars and Neptune will introduce confusion and anger to your discussions.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Parents should be patient with their kids today, because it's a confusing day. Likewise, it's a confusing day for romance.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Postpone important family discussions for another day because today confusion and heated emotions will color everything. Lighten up. You'll be glad you did later.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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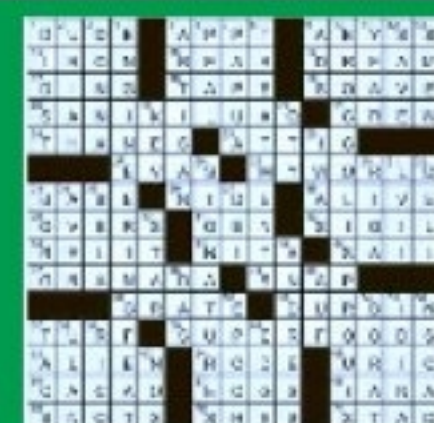
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